

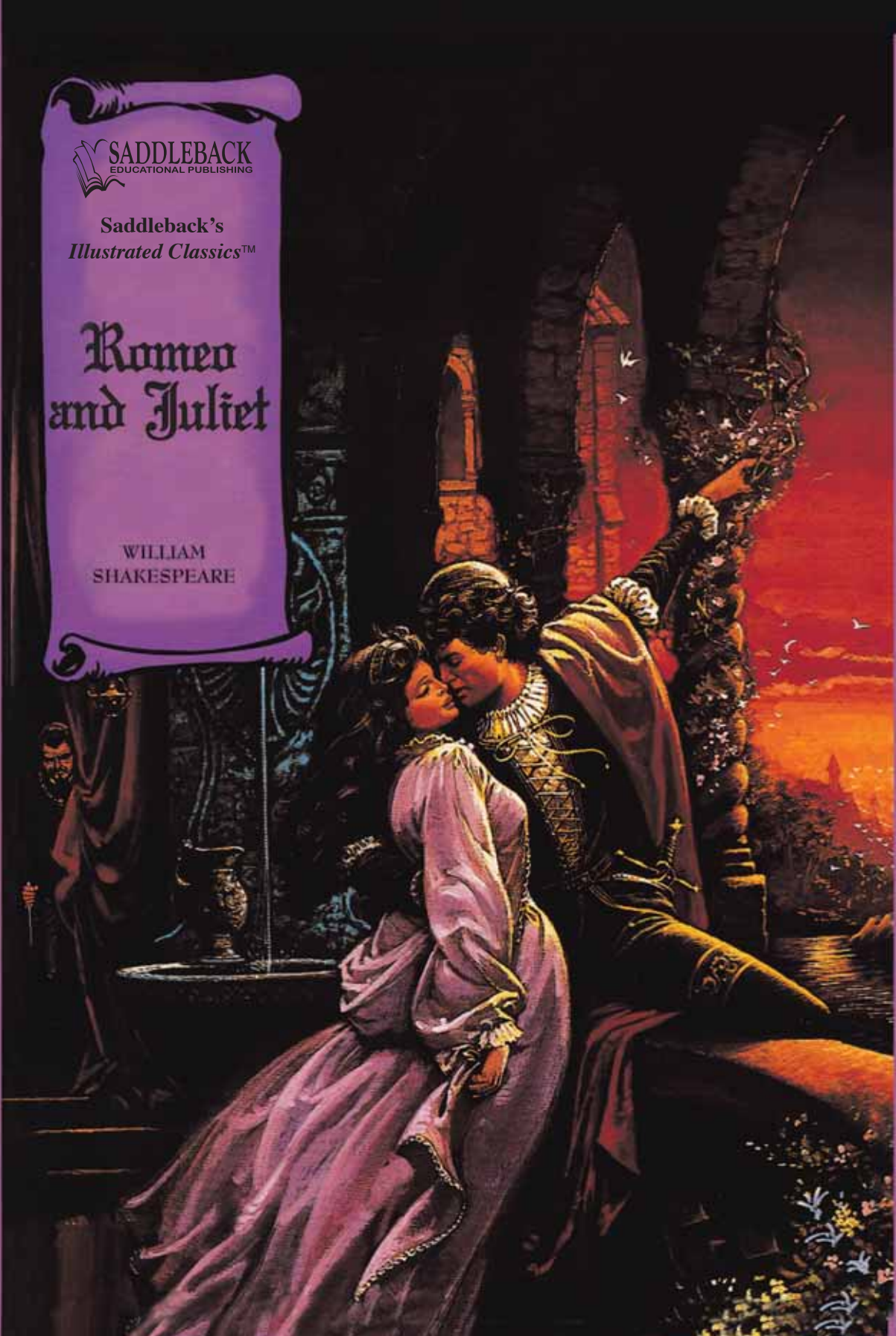


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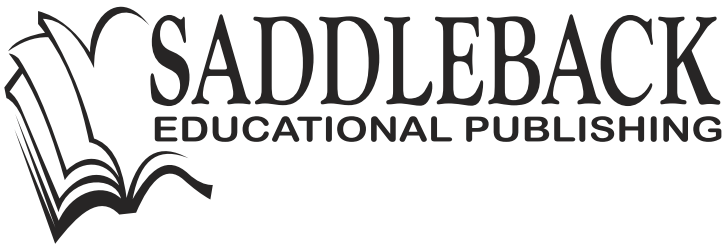
Romeo and Juliet

WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE



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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM



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Welcome to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM

We are proud to welcome you to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM was designed specifically for the classroom to introduce readers to many of the great classics in literature. Each text, written and adapted by teachers and researchers, has been edited using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system. In addition, much time and effort has been spent to ensure that these high-interest stories retain all of the excitement, intrigue, and adventure of the original books.

With these graphically *Illustrated Classics*TM, you learn what happens in the story in a number of different ways. One way is by reading the words a character says. Another way is by looking at the drawings of the character. The artist can tell you what kind of person a character is and what he or she is thinking or feeling.

This series will help you to develop confidence and a sense of accomplishment as you finish each novel. The stories in Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM are fun to read. And remember, fun motivates!

Overview

Everyone deserves to read the best literature our language has to offer. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*[™] was designed to acquaint readers with the most famous stories from the world's greatest authors, while teaching essential skills. You will learn how to:

- Establish a purpose for reading
- Use prior knowledge
- Evaluate your reading
- Listen to the language as it is written
- Extend literary and language appreciation through discussion and writing activities

Reading is one of the most important skills you will ever learn. It provides the key to all kinds of information. By reading the *Illustrated Classics*[™], you will develop confidence and the self-satisfaction that comes from accomplishment—a solid foundation for any reader.

Step-By-Step

The following is a simple guide to using and enjoying each of your *Illustrated Classics*[™]. To maximize your use of the learning activities provided, we suggest that you follow these steps:

1. ***Listen!*** We suggest that you listen to the read-along. (At this time, please ignore the beeps.) You will enjoy this wonderfully dramatized presentation.
2. ***Pre-reading Activities.*** After listening to the audio presentation, the pre-reading activities in the Activity Book prepare you for reading the story by setting the scene, introducing more difficult vocabulary words, and providing some short exercises.
3. ***Reading Activities.*** Now turn to the “While you are reading” portion of the Activity Book, which directs you to make a list of story-related facts. Read-along while listening to the audio presentation. (This time pay attention to the beeps, as they indicate when each page should be turned.)
4. ***Post-reading Activities.*** You have successfully read the story and listened to the audio presentation. Now answer the multiple-choice questions and other activities in the Activity Book.

Remember,

“Today’s readers are tomorrow’s leaders.”



William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was baptized on April 26, 1564, in Stratford-on-Avon, England, the third child of John Shakespeare, a well-to-do merchant, and Mary Arden, his wife. Young William probably attended the Stratford grammar school, where he learned English, Greek and Latin. Historians aren't sure of the exact date of Shakespeare's birth.

In 1582, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway. By 1583, the couple had a daughter, Susanna, and two years later the twins, Hamnet and Judith. Somewhere between 1585 and 1592, Shakespeare went to London, where he became first an actor and then a playwright. His acting company, *The King's Men*, appeared most often in the *Globe* theatre, a part of which Shakespeare himself owned.

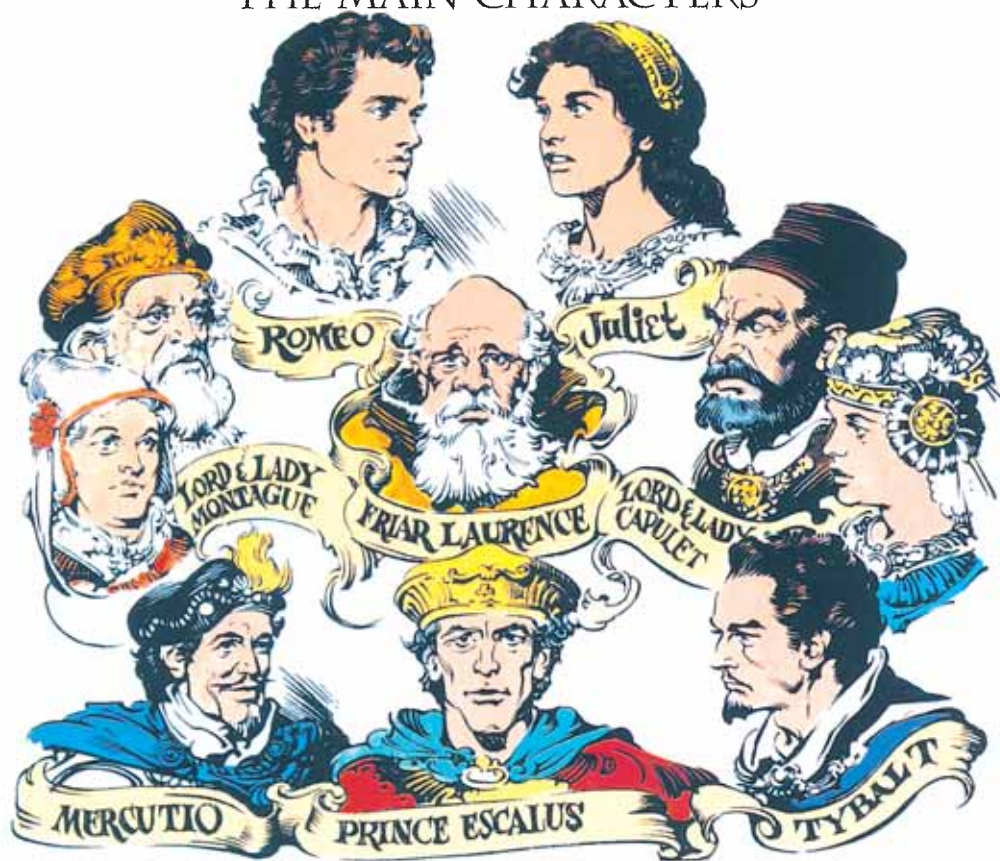
In all, Shakespeare is believed to have written thirty-seven plays, several nondramatic poems and a number of sonnets. In 1611, when he left the active life of the theatre, he returned to Stratford and became a country gentleman, living a quiet life. Then, on April 23, 1616, William Shakespeare died and was buried in Trinity Church in Stratford. Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest writers of the English-speaking world.


Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™

Romeo and Juliet

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

THE MAIN CHARACTERS



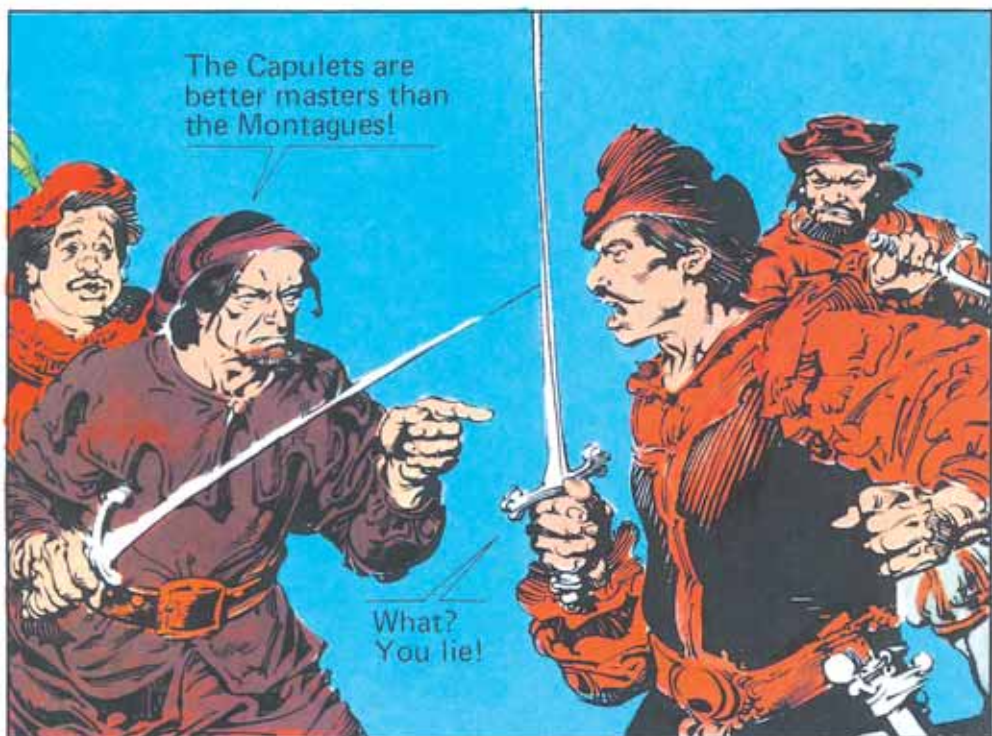
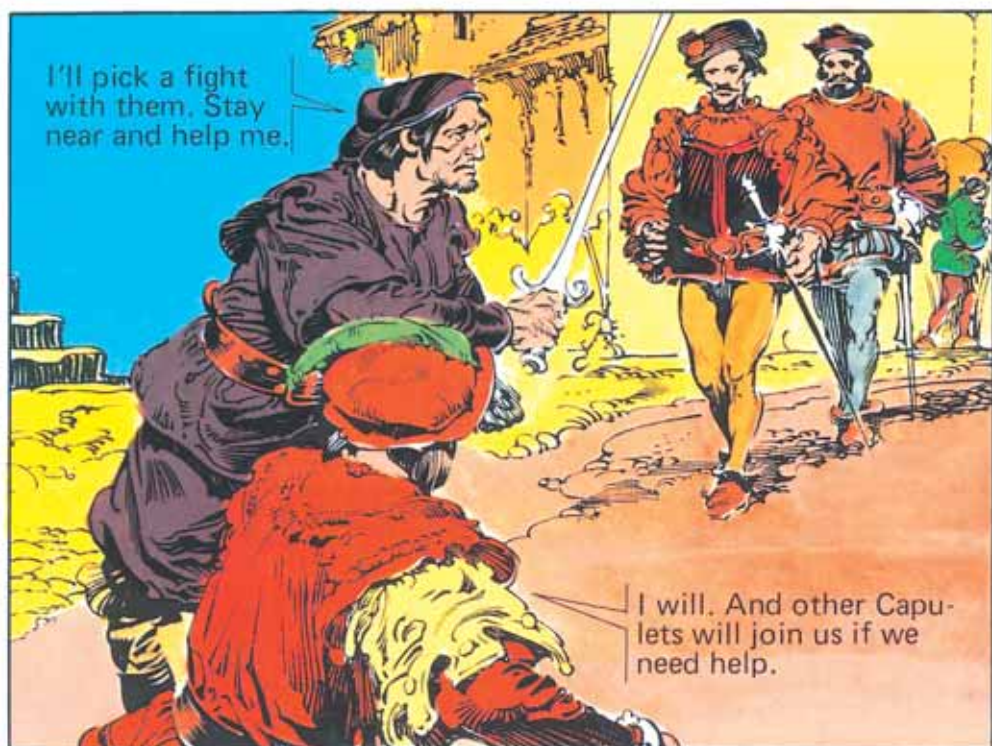


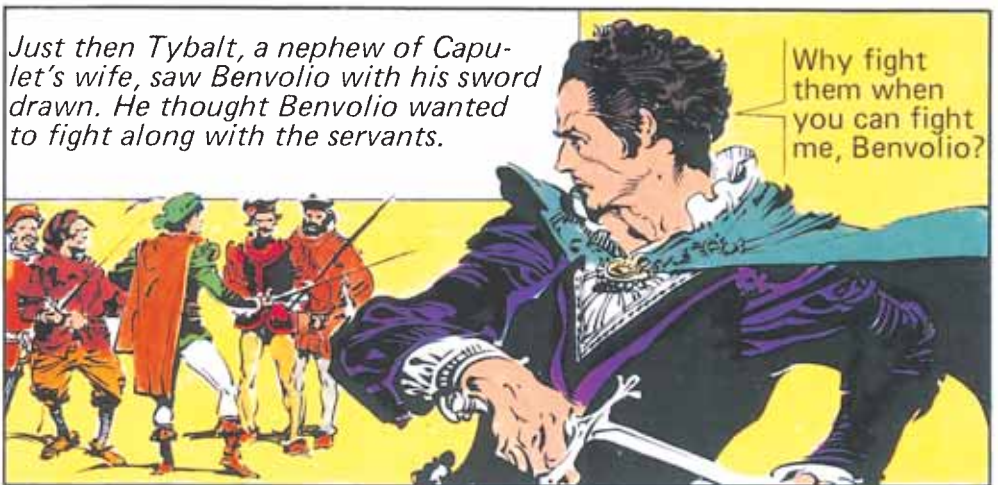
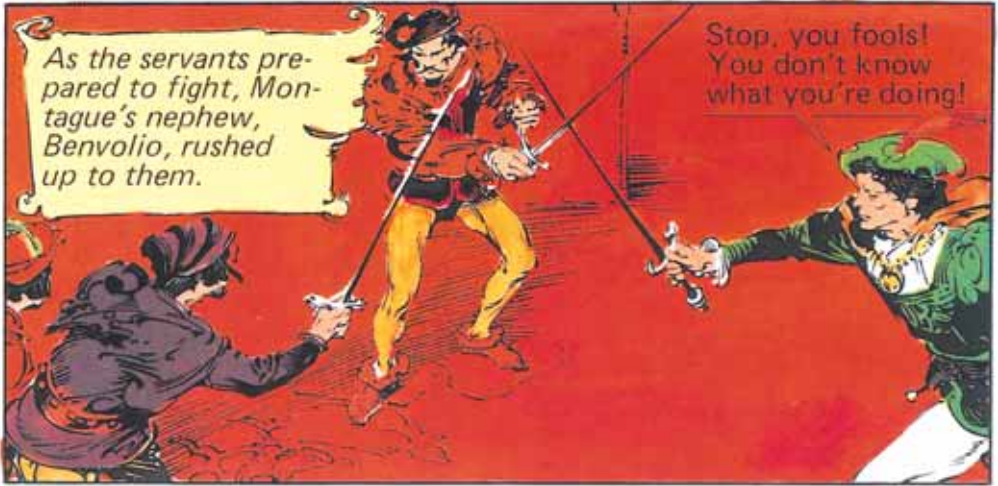
Many years ago in Verona, Italy, there lived two families who hated one another. The Montagues and the Capulets had been carrying on a feud for as long as they could remember.

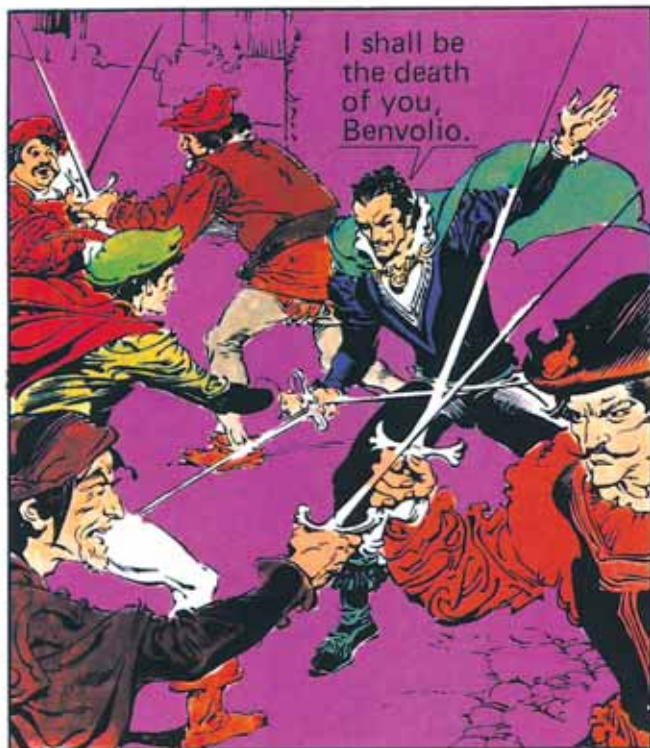
If those Montagues should come by, I'll strike before they can run away!

Then take out your sword, for two of them are coming now.

Sampson and Gregory were servants of the Capulets. They were just as ready to fight the Montagues as their masters were.



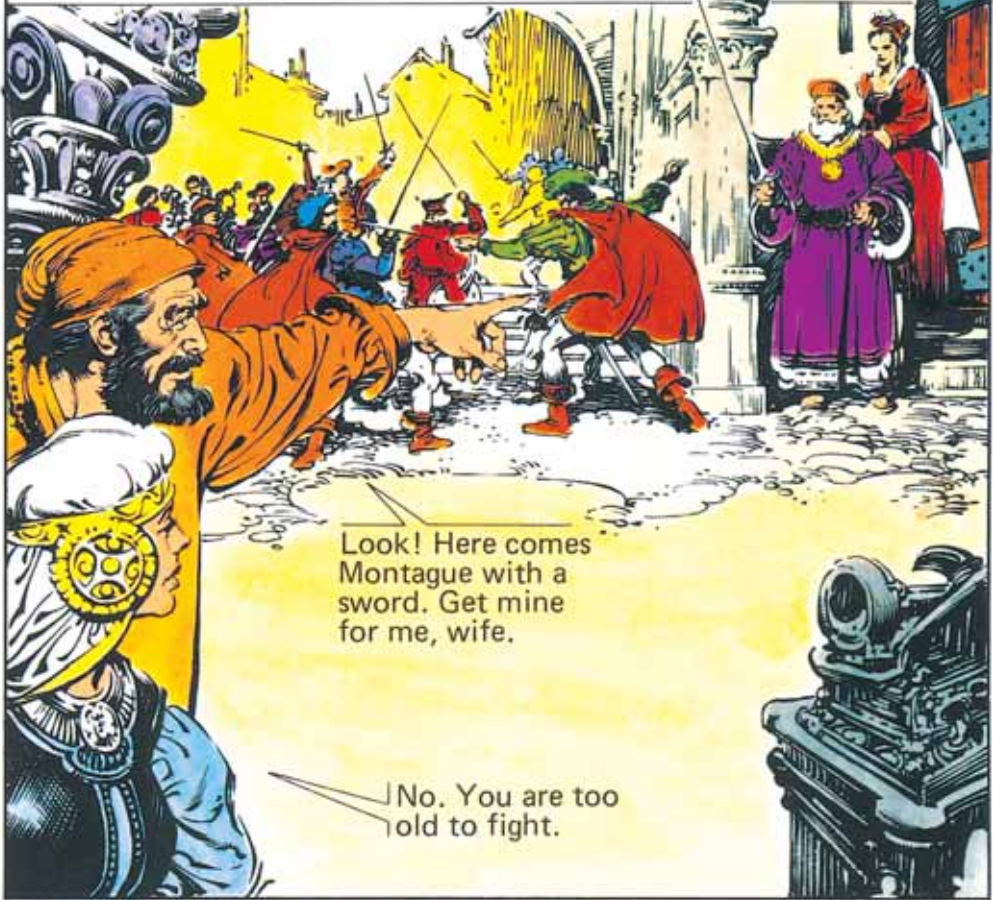


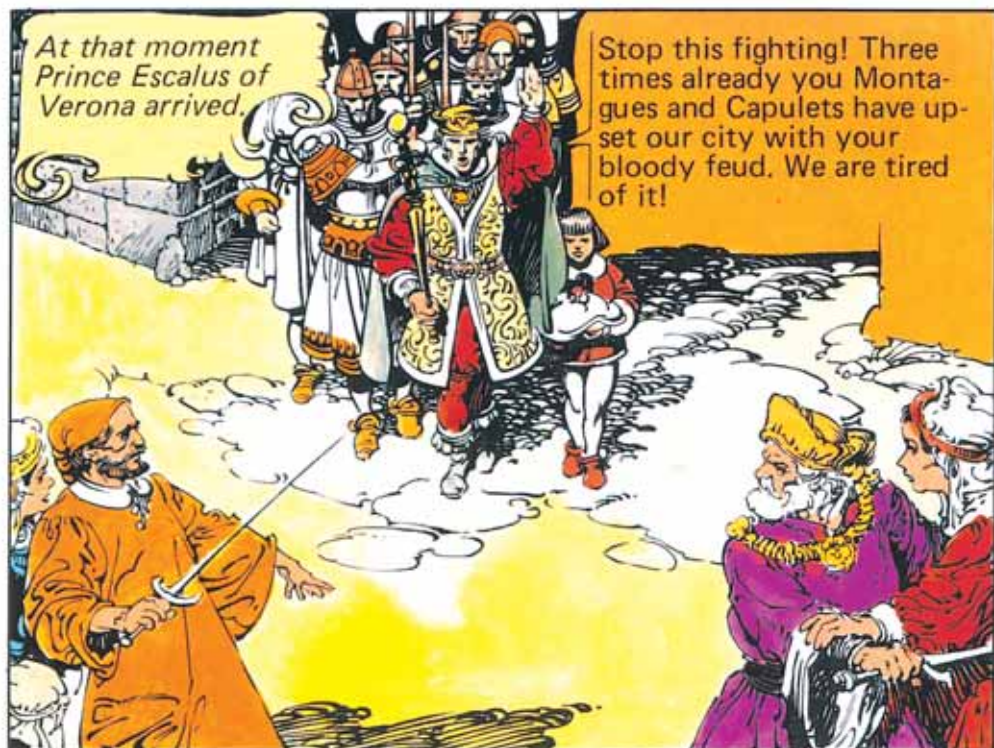


Many good citizens of Verona were tired of the long feud. They rushed up to the fighting men.



Hearing the noise, Old Capulet and Lord Montague came out of their houses to see what was happening.





With this the prince left, and the people went back to their homes.

By the way, Benvolio, have you seen my son Romeo to-day? I am glad he was not in this fight.

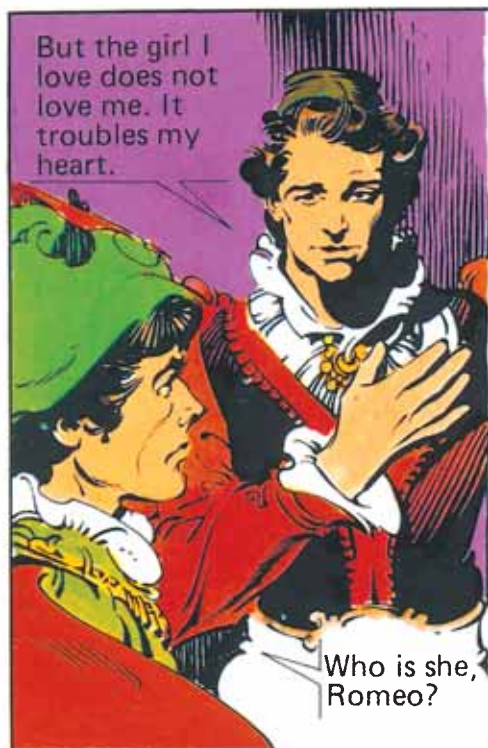
I saw him walking this morning, Lady Montague. He wanted to be left alone.

He has been doing that a lot lately, dear wife. He stays up all night long. And during the day he locks himself in his room.

As they spoke, Romeo came down the street. Benvolio went alone to talk with him.

Good morning, cousin. What is bothering you?

Oh, Benvolio, I am in love!



A short time later, Old Capulet met with the County Paris, a handsome and rich young man.

Sir, I would like to marry your daughter Juliet.

She is very young. But if she is willing, I will let you marry her.

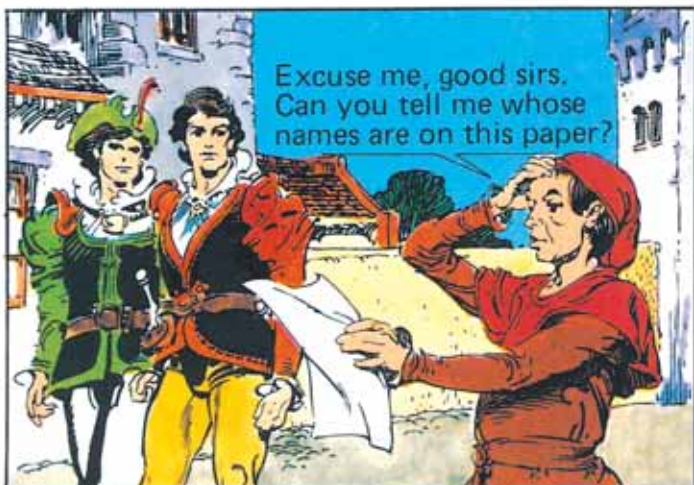
Come to my feast tonight. You may see some other lady more beautiful than Juliet.

I will come, sir.

Old Capulet called his servant and gave him a list of names.

Go and invite all the people on this list to my home tonight.

At his master's order, the servant took the list and left. But because he could not read, he had to stop someone and ask for help. As luck would have it, Romeo and Benvolio happened to be walking by just then.



As Romeo read the list for him, he saw that the name of the lady he loved was included.



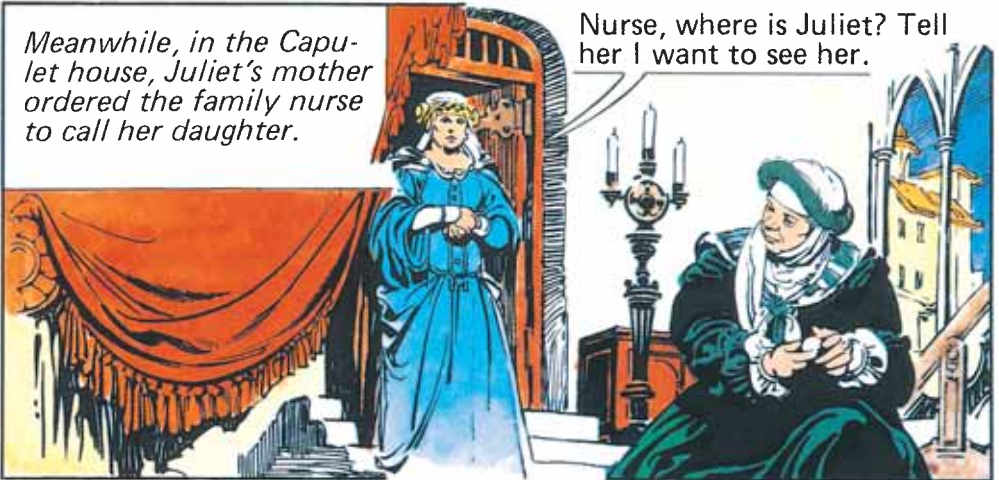
Thank you for helping me, sirs. My master is Lord Capulet. If you are not Montagues, you are welcome to attend his party.



When the servant left, Benvolio quickly spoke with Romeo.

So your lady is on the list! Let us go to the feast tonight. I am sure you will see others there who are just as pretty. When you compare them, you will agree with me!





Marriage? I haven't thought about it.

Well, think about it now. Many ladies in Verona younger than yourself are already married.



County Paris has asked for your hand. He will be at the feast tonight. Do you think you can love him?



I will not know until I see him, Mother.

Not long afterward, a servant appeared at the door.

Madam, the guests have arrived, and supper will be served soon.

We'll be right there. Juliet, Paris is waiting. Let us go.



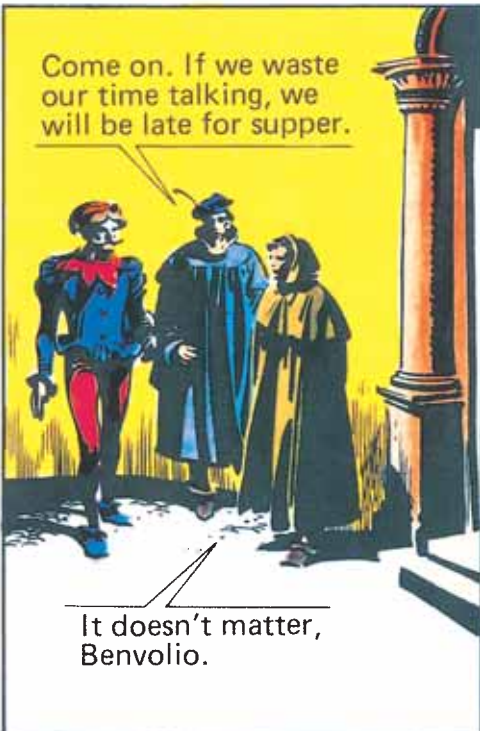
That evening Romeo and Benvolio joined the other guests at the Capulets' costume party. Mercutio, another friend, went along as well.

Cheer up,
Romeo. What's
the matter?



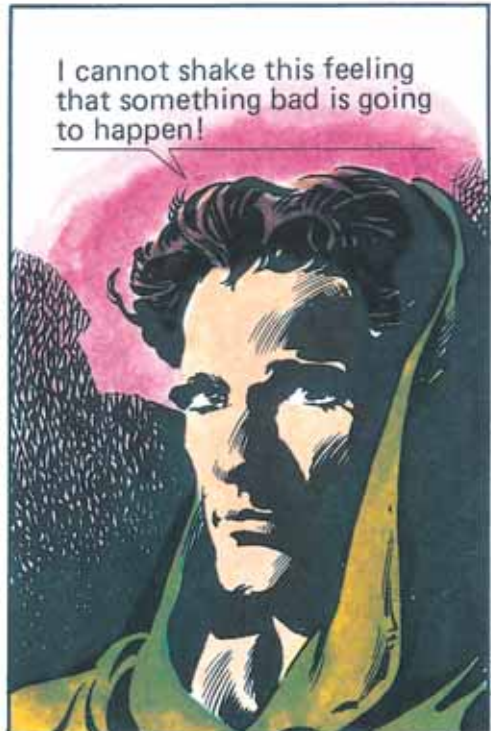
I had a bad dream last
night, Mercutio. I think
it was a warning.

Come on. If we waste
our time talking, we
will be late for supper.

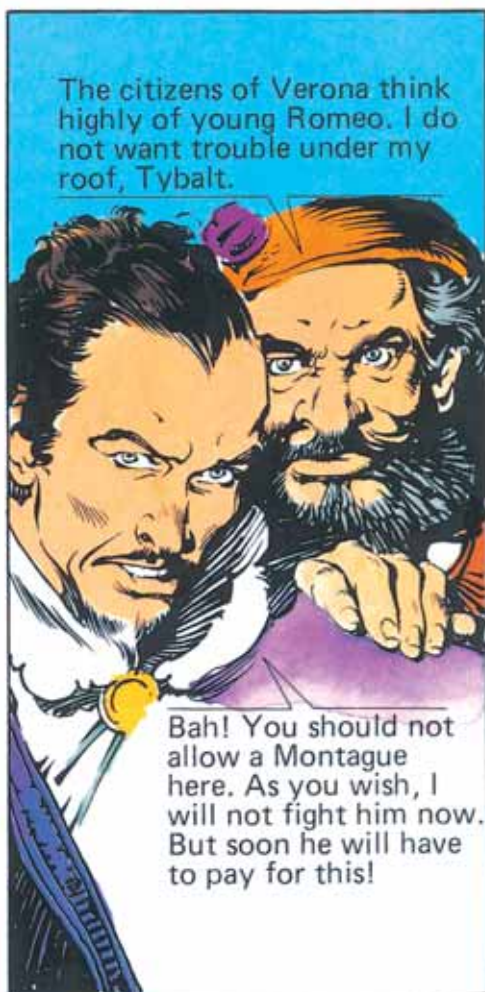
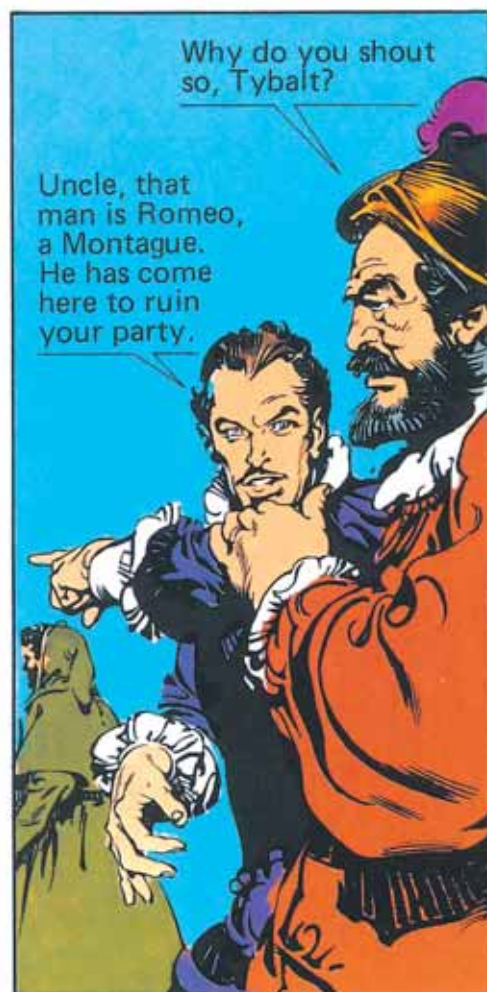


It doesn't matter,
Benvolio.

I cannot shake this feeling
that something bad is going
to happen!











After Juliet left, Romeo turned to the nurse.



Her mother is a Capulet.
This young girl is an enemy
of my family. But I shall
surely die without her!



Coming up behind him, Benvolio could tell that something had disturbed Romeo.



As they walked to the door, Lord Capulet urged Romeo and Benvolio to stay. They refused.



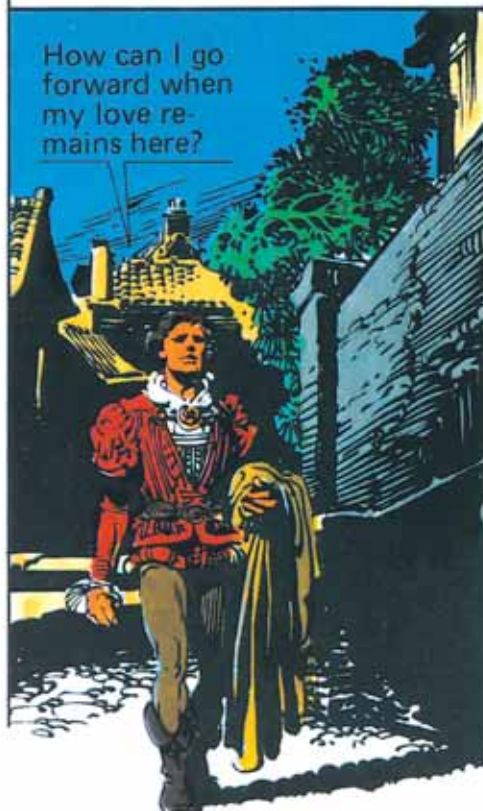
When the young men had left, Capulet realized that the party had gone on long enough.





Meanwhile, once outside, Romeo could not bear to go home without catching another glimpse of his beloved Juliet.

How can I go forward when my love remains here?



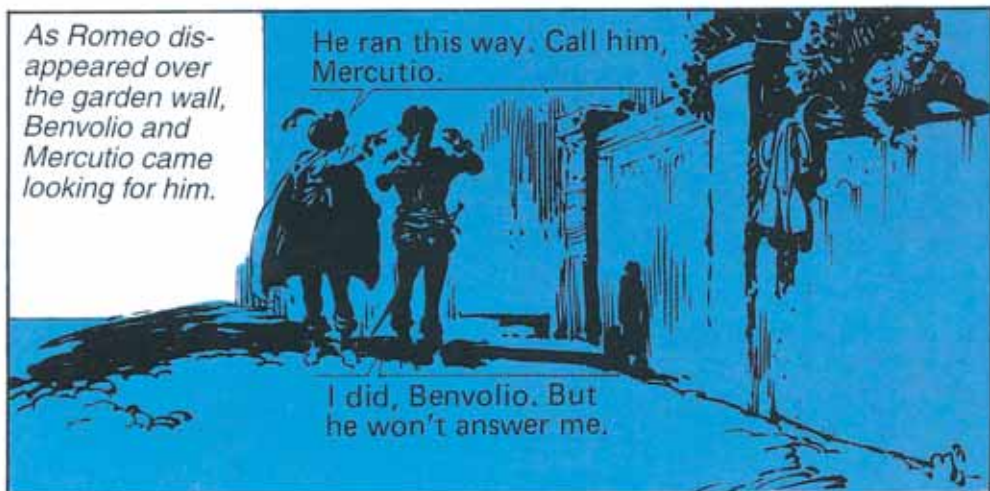
I must see Juliet again!

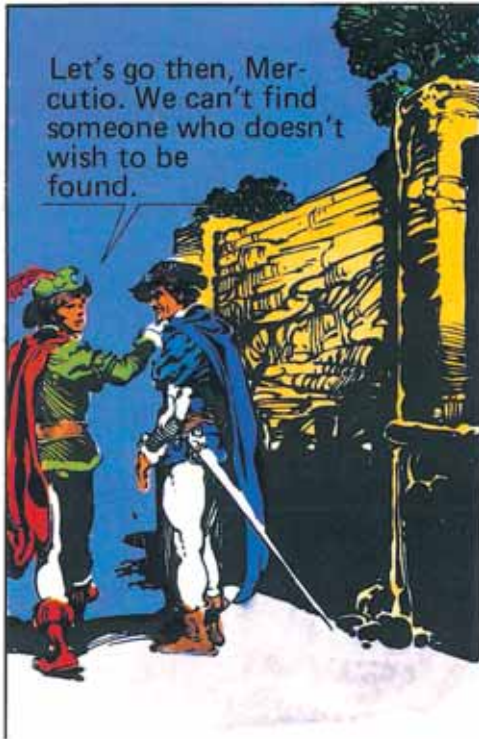


As Romeo disappeared over the garden wall, Benvolio and Mercutio came looking for him.

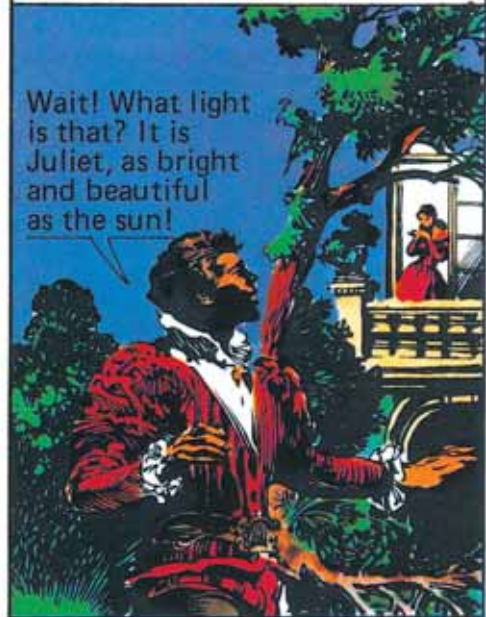
He ran this way. Call him, Mercutio.

I did, Benvolio. But he won't answer me.



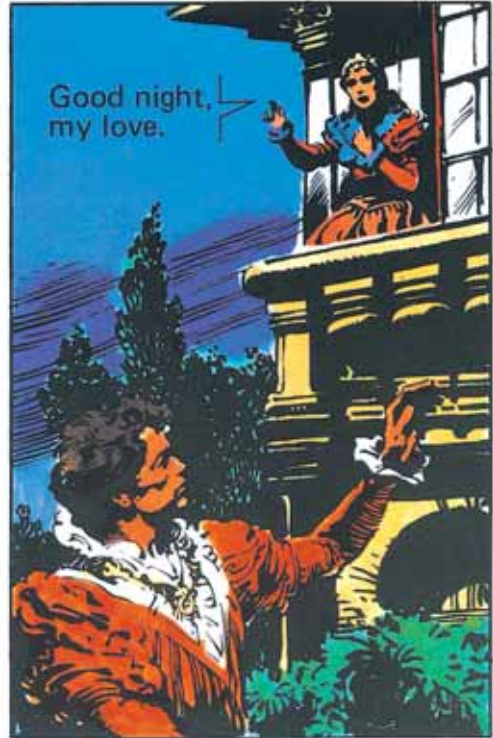


Meanwhile, in the garden, Romeo saw Juliet at her balcony window.

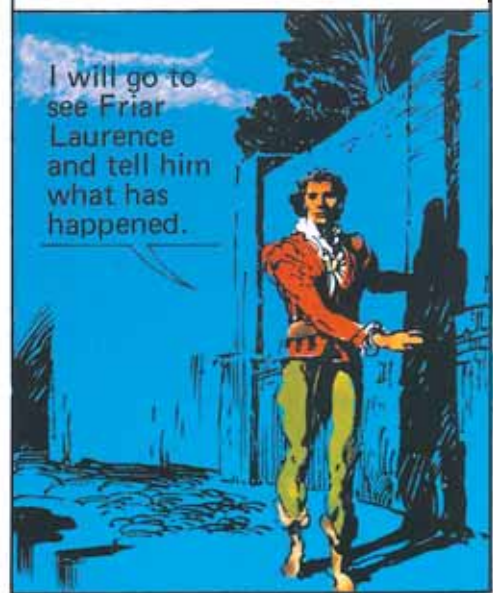


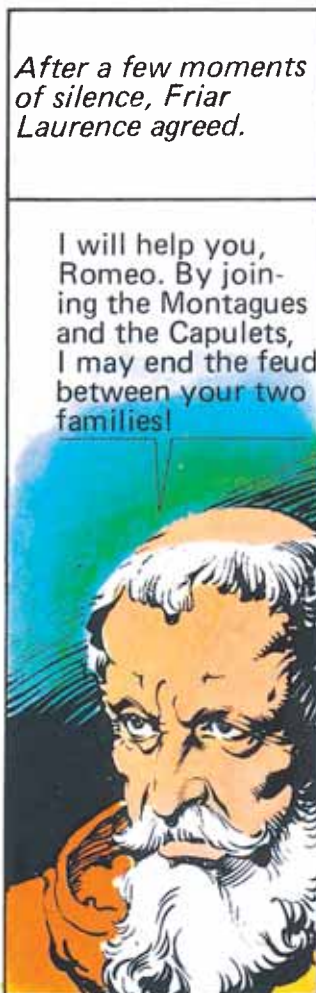


Romeo and Juliet spoke for a few moments of their love. Then Juliet heard her nurse calling at the bedroom door.



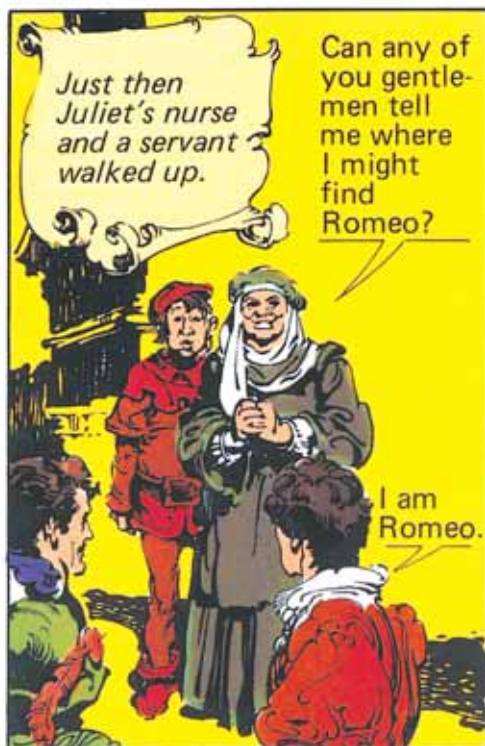
Romeo climbed back over the wall. Even though it was very late, he knew he would not be able to sleep.







Benvolio was the first to see his friend coming toward them.

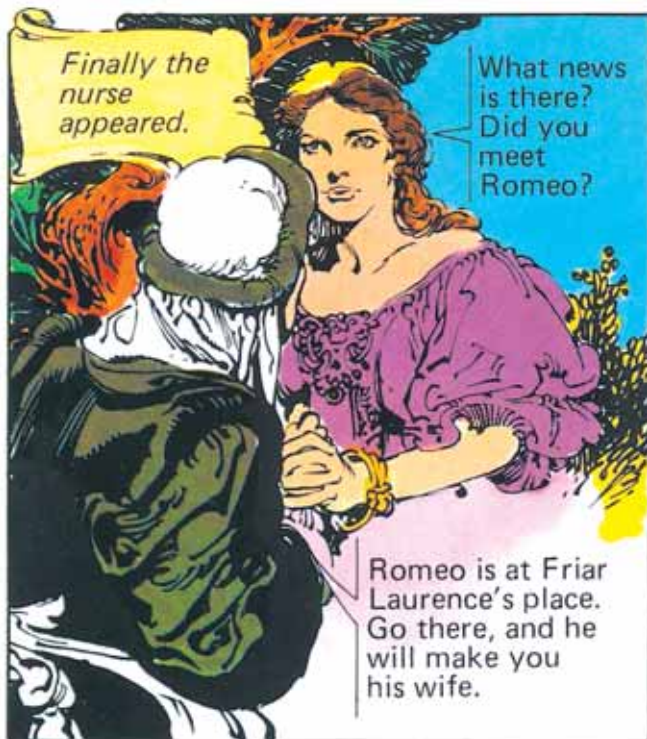






Meanwhile, Juliet was waiting in her garden. The nurse had been gone for about three hours.

Where can she be? She said she would be back in half an hour!



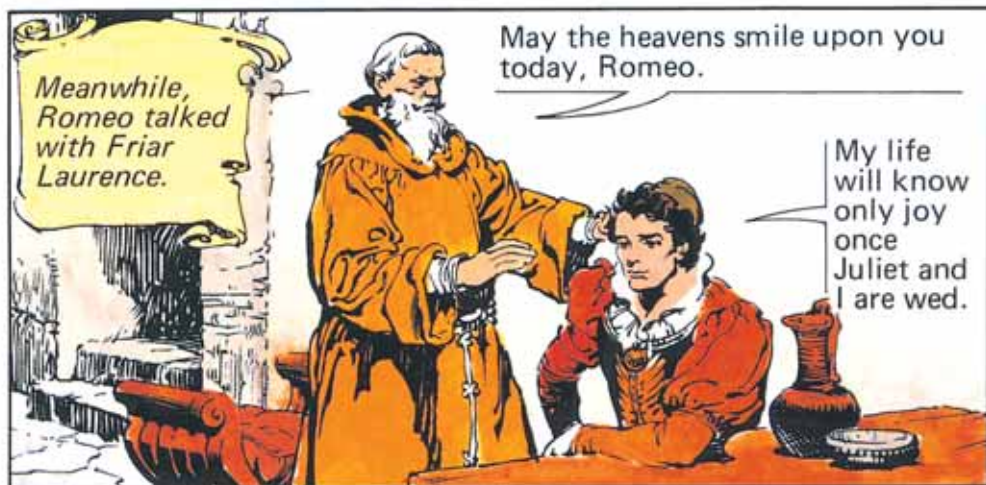
Finally the nurse appeared.

What news is there? Did you meet Romeo?

Romeo is at Friar Laurence's place. Go there, and he will make you his wife.



At this, Juliet hurried away.



It grew very warm that afternoon, and Benvolio pleaded with Mercutio to go home.

I think we should leave, Mercutio. It is hot, and many Capulets are nearby. If we meet one of them, we will surely be in for a fight.



Come on, now, Benvolio. You use the smallest excuse to pick a quarrel yourself!



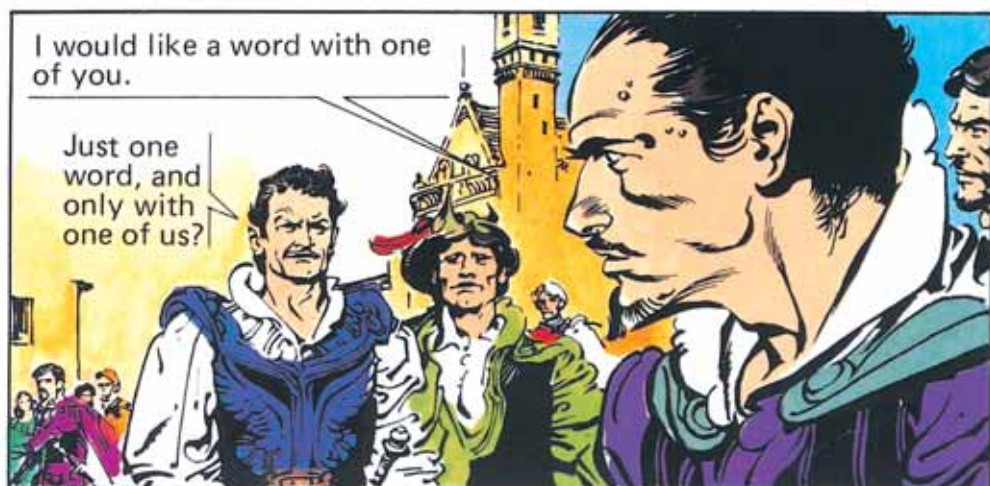
As they were speaking, Tybalt and some other Capulets appeared. Tybalt was looking for Romeo.

Here come the Capulets.



I don't care. Let them come!



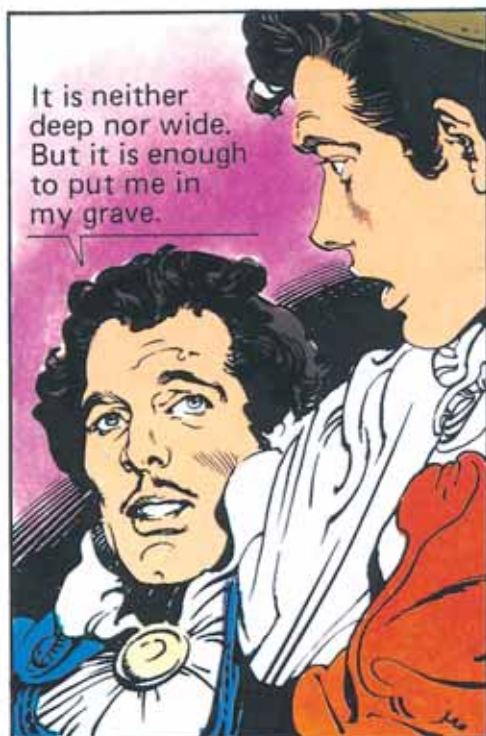
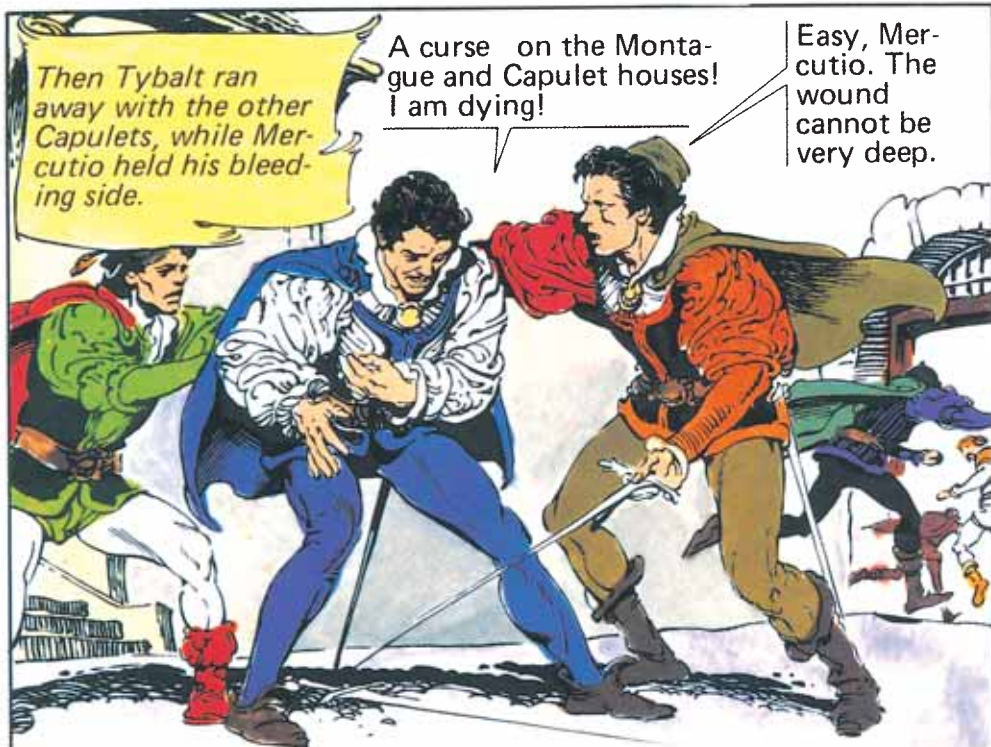




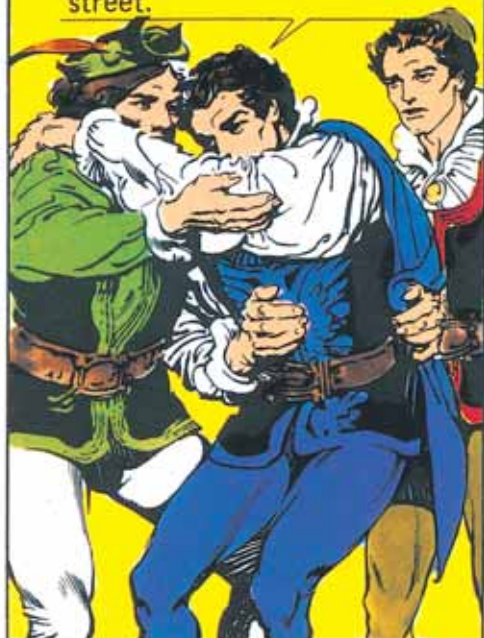
Hearing this, Mercutio thought Romeo was too love-sick to fight. He challenged Tybalt himself.







Help me to a house, Ben-
volio, or I will die in the
street.



Poor Mercutio!
This is all my
fault. He was
hurt trying to
protect my
reputation.
And I didn't
want to fight
Tybalt because
he is Juliet's
cousin.

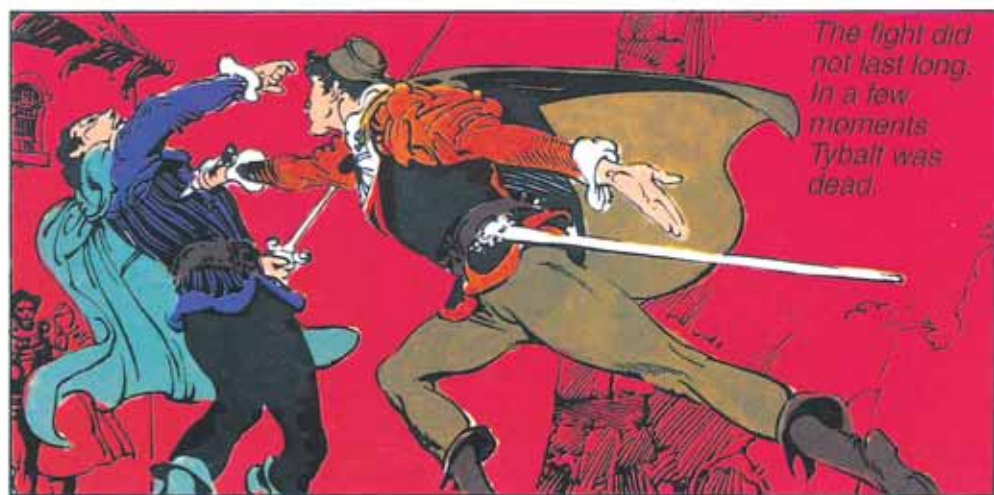
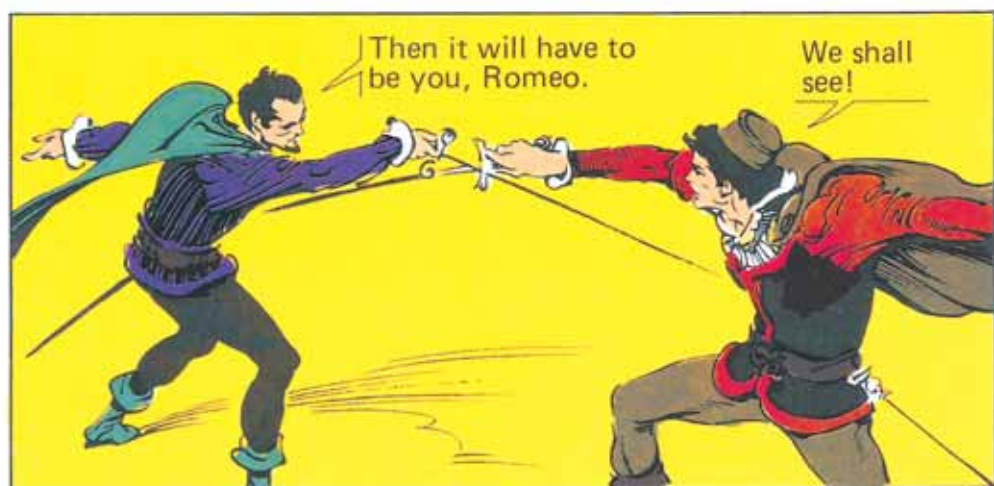


Just then Ben-
volio rushed
out of a near-
by house.

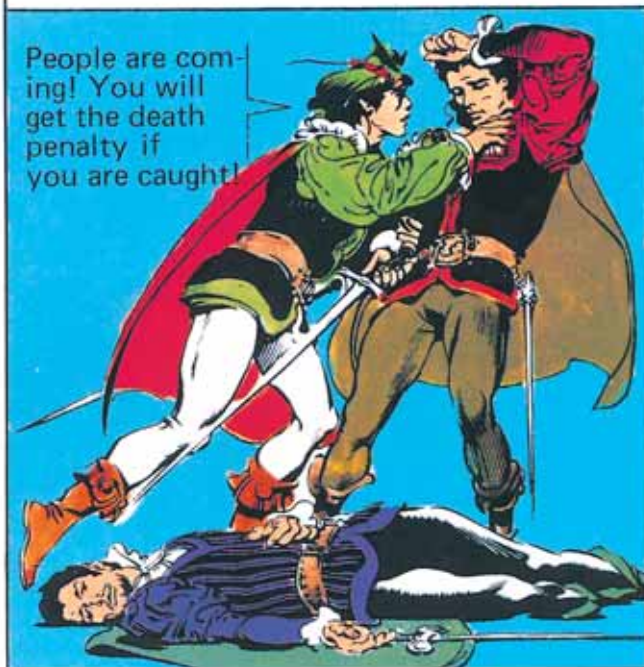
Romeo! Brave
Mercutio
is dead!

Then I must
kill Tybalt, or
be killed my-
self!





Seeing this, Benvolio urged Romeo to leave.



Benvolio is right. I am a fool.

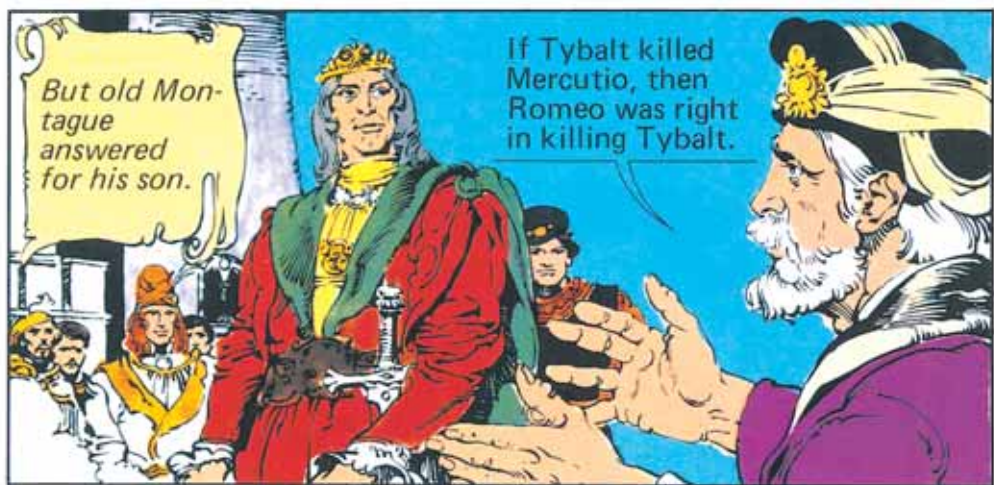


A crowd soon gathered. The prince himself came to learn what had happened.

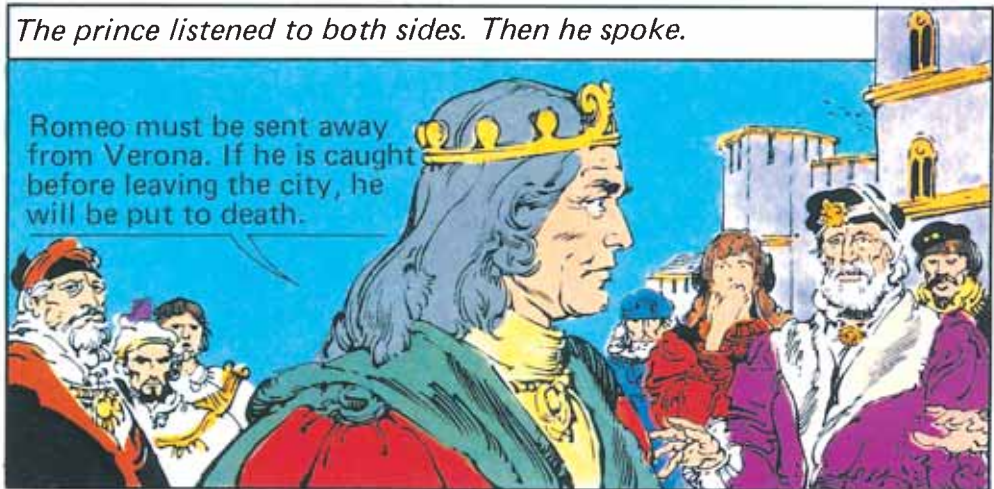


Who started this fight?

Tybalt killed Mercutio, and Romeo fought Tybalt for doing it.



The prince listened to both sides. Then he spoke.



Meanwhile, knowing nothing of what had happened, Juliet was sitting quietly in her garden.



Suddenly the nurse arrived carrying the rope ladder that Romeo would use. She was very upset.

What is
wrong,
nurse?

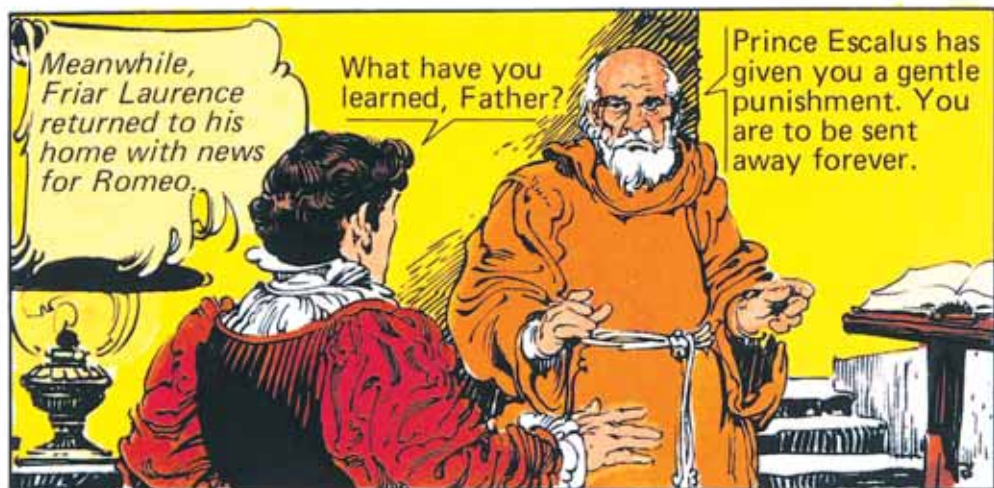


*At this, Juliet was
filled with grief.*

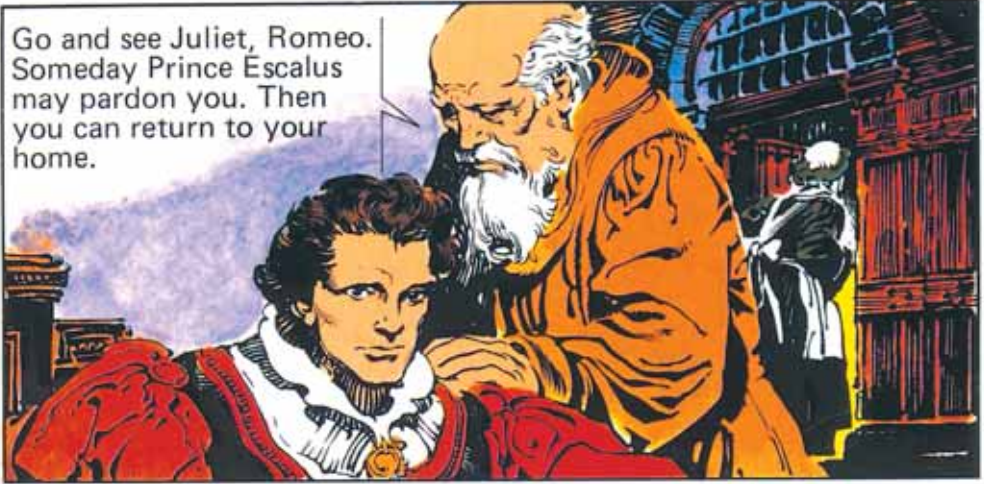
If I cannot
have Romeo,
I will die!

No, Juliet. Do not
kill yourself. I know
where Romeo is hid-
ing. I will tell him to
see you tonight be-
fore he leaves.





Go and see Juliet, Romeo. Someday Prince Escalus may pardon you. Then you can return to your home.



Friar Laurence told Romeo to leave Verona before dawn and go to the city of Mantua to live.

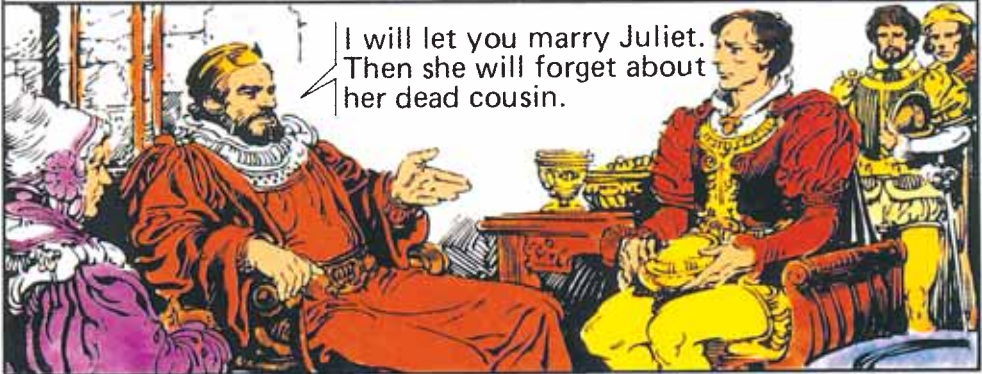
Just be sure to leave the city before dawn. Go to Mantua for the time being, and I will contact you through your servant Balthasar. Now go.

Thank you, Father. Farewell and good night.



All this time, Juliet's father did not know his daughter was wed to Romeo. He made plans with the County Paris.

I will let you marry Juliet. Then she will forget about her dead cousin.



You may take my daughter as your wife next Thursday. How does that sound?

Sir, I wish tomorrow were Thursday!

I will go upstairs and tell Juliet about this.



At this very moment Romeo was standing on Juliet's balcony.

Must you go so soon, Romeo?



Yes, my love. The birds are starting to sing and the sun is coming up. If I stay any longer I will be killed.

But I would gladly stay and die for you, Juliet, if that is what you wish.

No, no! You must leave!





As Lady Capulet entered the room, she saw how sad Juliet was and thought she was still weeping at Tybalt's death.

I have good news, Juliet. To make you happy, we have arranged for you to marry the County Paris.

Oh, no! Mother, I will never marry him!



In a moment her father entered the room. Lady Capulet turned to him.

Juliet does not want to marry Paris.

What? You shall, Juliet, or I will send you out of this house!

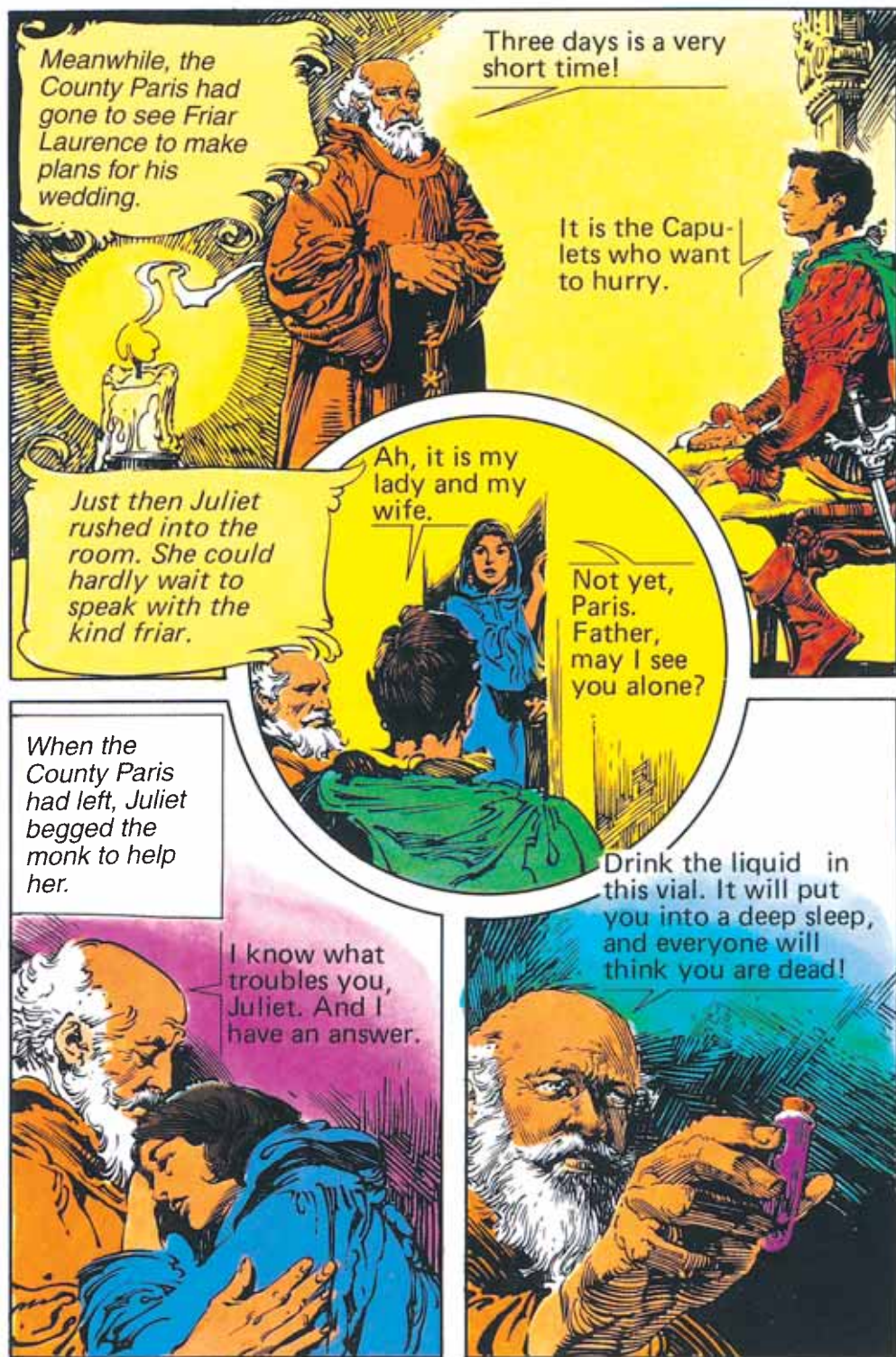


Of course the Capulets thought they knew what was best for their daughter. When she would not do as they wished, they left her room angrily. Then Juliet found a way to get out of the house.

Nurse, I must go and see Friar Laurence. I have to tell him that I made my parents angry.

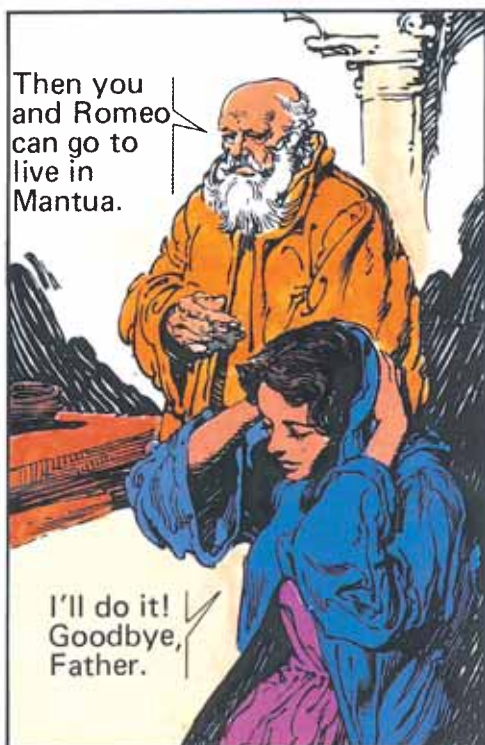
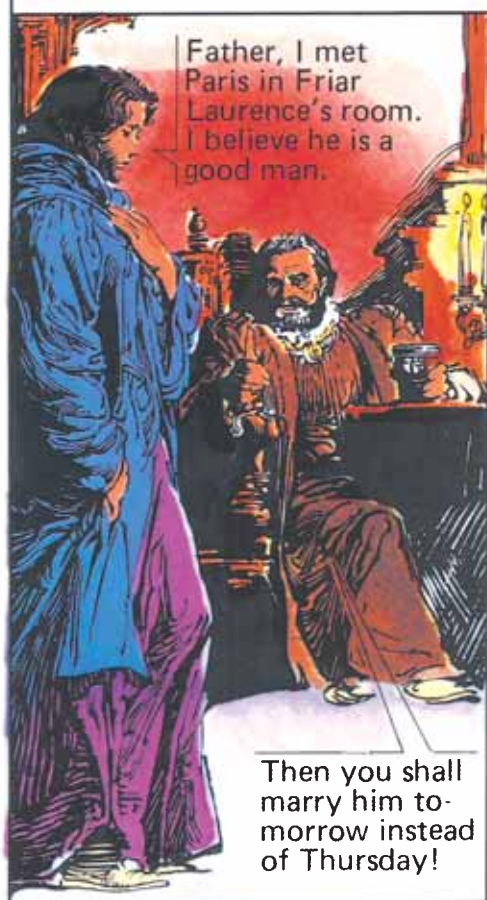


That's a good idea, Juliet.





Juliet returned at once to her father's house.

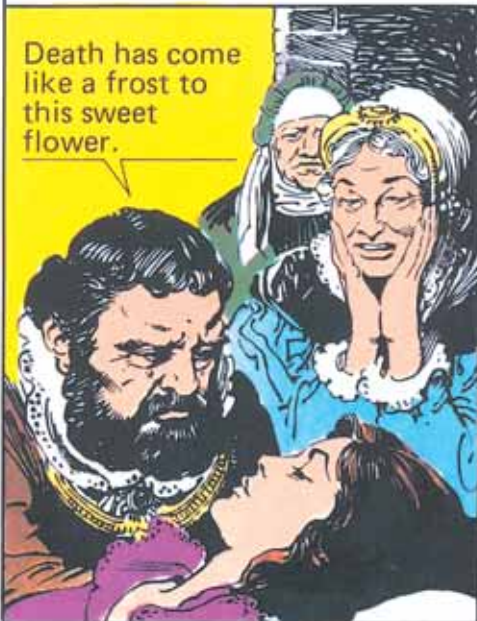




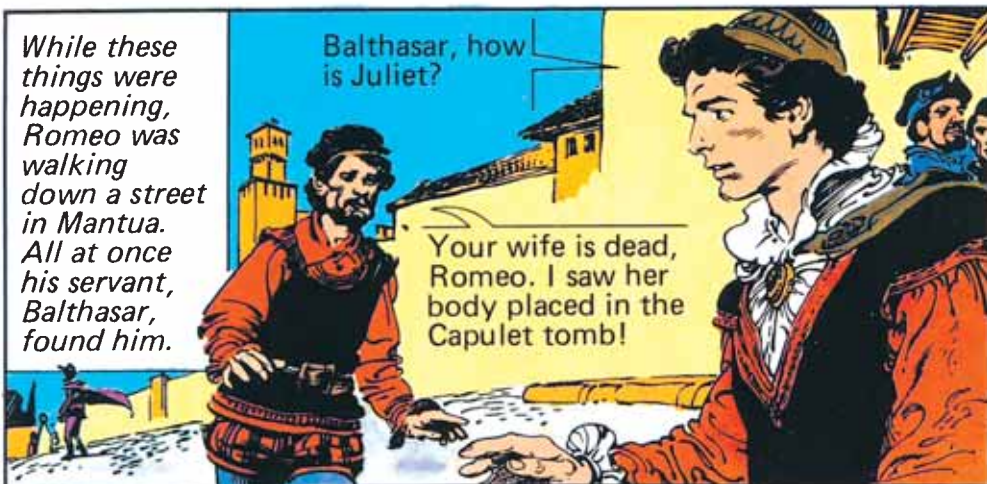
The next morning, the nurse went to Juliet's room to prepare her for the wedding.



Hearing the nurse's cries, Lord and Lady Capulet rushed into the room.



While these things were happening, Romeo was walking down a street in Mantua. All at once his servant, Balthasar, found him.



Balthasar, how is Juliet?

Your wife is dead, Romeo. I saw her body placed in the Capulet tomb!

Romeo was stunned at the news, but he made plans quickly.

Get some horses for us, Balthasar. We will leave for Verona tonight. Are there any messages from Friar Laurence?



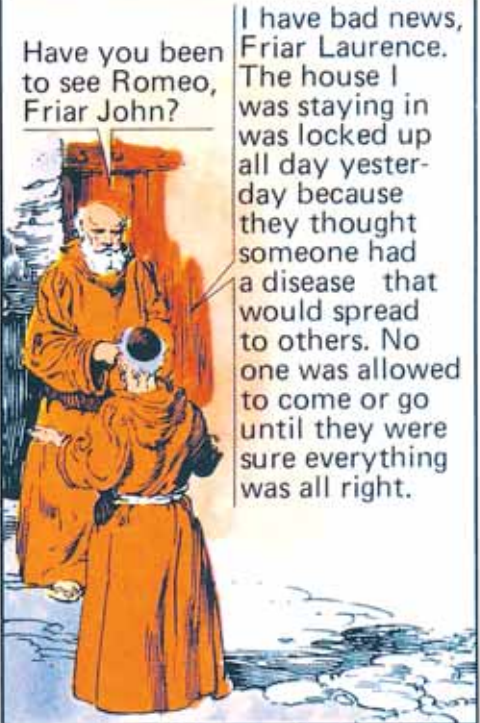
No, none.

When Balthasar had gone, Romeo went to a nearby drug store to buy some poison. He planned to take his own life and die next to Juliet.





Meanwhile, back in Verona, Friar Laurence was very upset. The day before, he had written a letter to Romeo and had given it to Friar John. He thought Friar John would bring back an answer.



What? Quick, get me some tools! Juliet will wake up in three hours, and Romeo won't be there!

At this very moment the County Paris was at Juliet's tomb. Suddenly his servant called out to him.



Sir, I hear horses coming.

Then I'll step aside for a moment. I don't want anyone to see me.

Romeo and Balthasar drew near to Juliet's tomb. They had just arrived from Mantua.



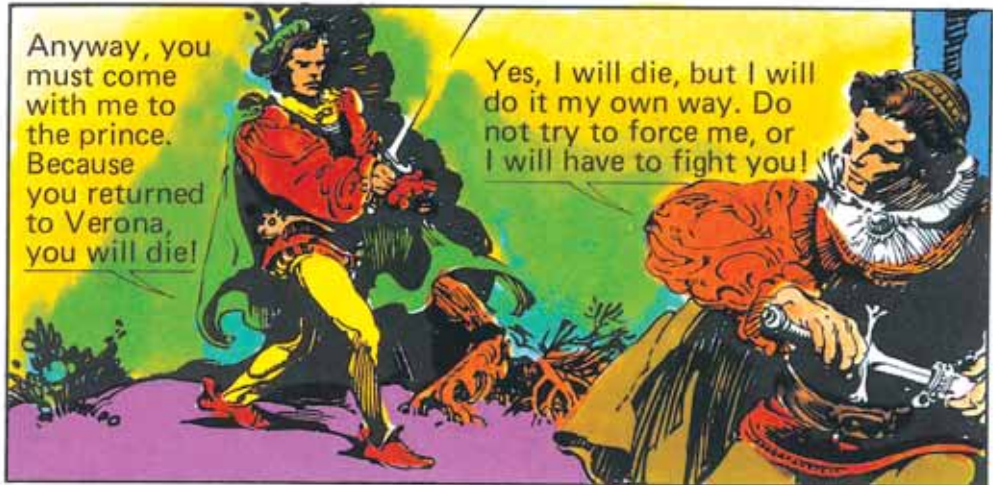
Take this letter, Balthasar, and give it to my father. I would like to be alone.

I will go, sir.

When he had gone, Romeo used Balthasar's tools to open the tomb. Seeing this, Paris stepped from the shadows and ordered Romeo to stop.



Romeo, you killed Juliet's cousin and she died from sadness at his death. You must not do anything else to hurt her family. Leave her tomb alone.



But Paris would not listen. The two men fought, and Paris was killed.



Suddenly Romeo realized that the man he had just killed was Mercutio's cousin. Mercutio had been one of Romeo's best friends.

Now I know who this young man was.

I will lay him in the tomb near Juliet. Then I will join them myself!



Saying this, Romeo picked up the body of Paris and walked into the tomb.

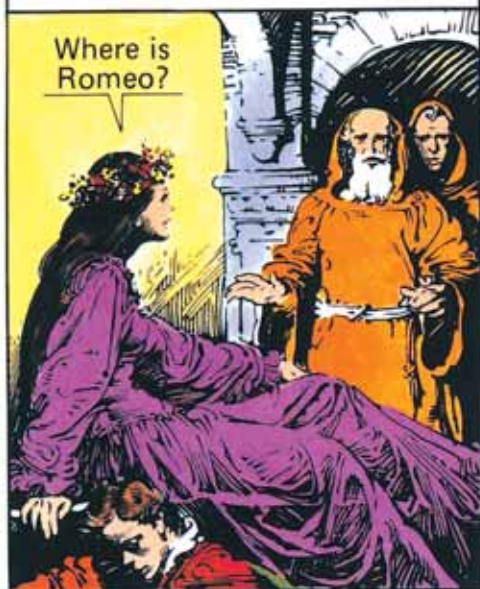




Just before he fell, he kissed Juliet one last time.



Moments later, Friar Laurence and Balthasar entered the tomb. Juliet had just awakened.



He is dead, Juliet, and so is Paris. Let us get out of here at once!



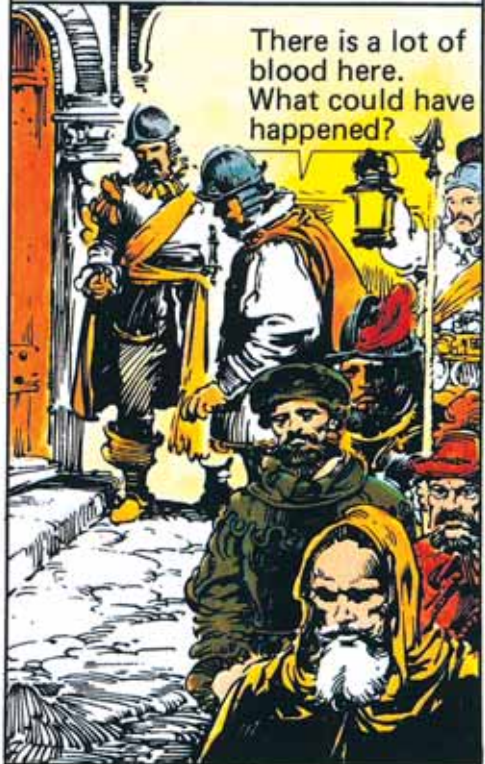
But Juliet was too shocked and sad to leave. Meanwhile, Friar Laurence was afraid to be found by the guards, and he and Balthasar left quickly.



With this, she took Romeo's dagger and plunged it into her heart.

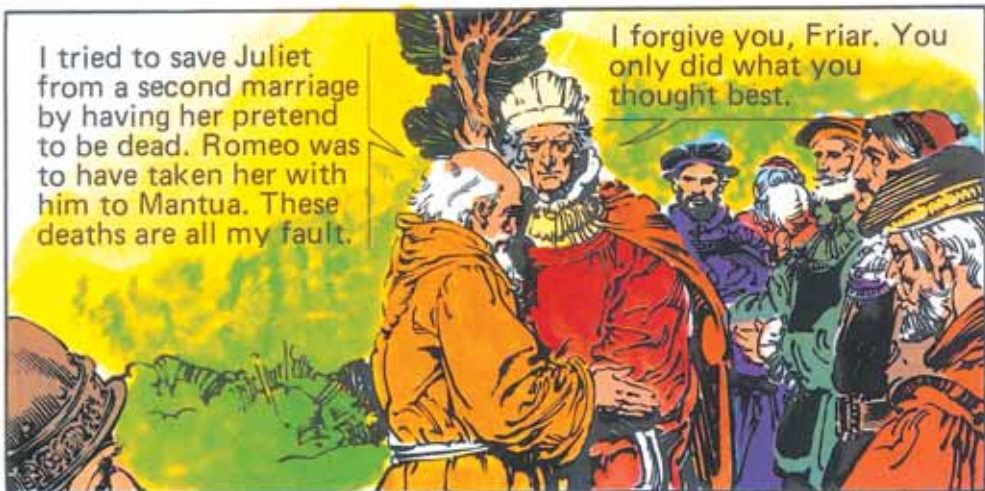


Called by Paris' servant, several guards soon arrived at the tomb. Another guard brought Balthasar and Friar Laurence back.



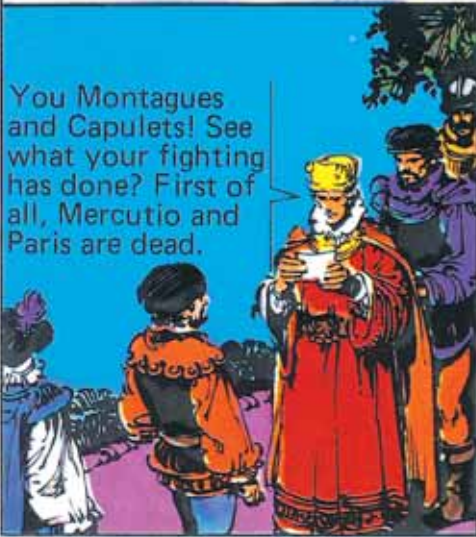


Balthasar and Friar Laurence were brought forward for questioning just as Lord Montague reached the tomb.

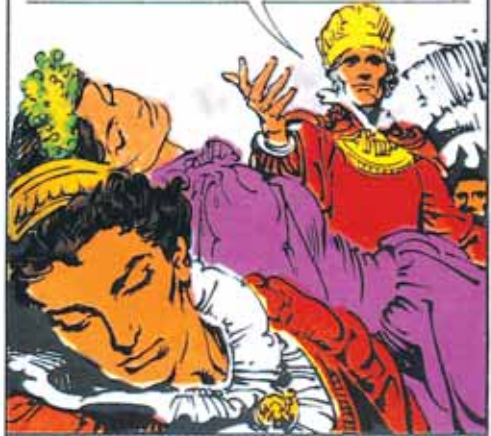


At that Balthasar handed Prince Escalus the letter Romeo had given him. It proved what Friar Laurence had said was true.

You Montagues and Capulets! See what your fighting has done? First of all, Mercutio and Paris are dead.



The Capulets have lost Juliet and the Montagues have lost Romeo. All of us have been punished because of you!



And finally, at the prince's words, the two families realized how stupid they had been.

Montague, give me your hand. From this day forth our feud is over!

I give you my hand and more. We shall never fight again!

That is good! But for now, let us leave this place. The sad story of what happened here will remain with us always!



END

Romeo and Juliet

Romeo and Juliet has become Shakespeare's most well-known love story. See how true love can blossom, even in an unfriendly setting of hatred and feuding. Read along and find out how their innocence enables them to overlook the fighting between their families. Romeo and Juliet are betrayed by the very families they care about, forcing them to take their lives instead of being separated. In the end, through the pain of losing their children, the families realize how trivial their differences really were.



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